



Our Children & Youth
Christmas Advent is coming . . .
and YOU are invited!

Dates: Wednesdays 6p—7:30p

*** Dec. 6 * Dec. 13 * Dec. 20**

The Christmas Story

Games, Crafts, Prizes, Snacks & Music

Pre-registration is encouraged—Bring your friends!



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

At this time of year, we are called to pray for our missionaries who are spreading the Gospel all over the world and to support them with the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Our goal this year is \$2,800.00.

The Week of Prayer for Int'l Missionaries is December 3—10.

What Do You Know About Charlotte “Lottie” Moon?

- 1840—Born into a wealthy southern USA family
- 1858—Became a Christian after a trip to the Holy Land
- 1861—One of the first American women to earn a college degree in Master of Arts
- 1862-1865—Teacher and nurse during the Civil War
- 1873—Sailed September 1st to China as a missionary, to teach, plant churches and care for women and children—winning many over with her shortbread cookies,
- 1888—Challenged WMU to financially support international missionaries. This became our annual Christmas offering.
- 1912—Starved to death with her Chinese people weighing only 50 lbs. (Fellow missionaries were taking Lottie to America at that time)

Lottie Moon was only 4 feet 3 inches tall.
BUT WHAT A GLORY TO GOD!!

Advent Wreath Lighting
Deacon Barry Milligan - December 17, 2023
3rd Sunday in Advent

Deacon: Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Deacon: (Unison): How does this happen?

Deacon: God’s light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God’s divine love and light.

All: “Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us. Let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Deacon: A reading from the prophet Zephaniah: “In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing,” **(Zephaniah 3:16-17)**.

All: We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, and then we lit two candles. Today, on the third Sunday of Advent, we light three candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY.

Deacon Family Member (Lighting of the Candles)

(Lighting 2 PURPLE Candles AND 1 PINK Candle) ...

Deacon: Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus, the Messiah who will show us the way back to God.

All: The Messiah is on the way to us. As we prepare for his coming, may we repent of our sins. May we remember our baptisms with water. May we be ready to be baptized with God’s Holy Spirit and fire. May we be ready to help our Lord proclaim the good news of God’s love to all people, so that the world will be filled with joy.

Deacon: Closing Prayer



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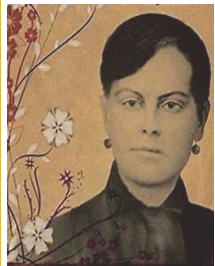
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- 1862-1865—Teacher and nurse during the Civil War
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